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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 218, April 19, 2024

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in red. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a **Propagation** section, updated daily; and a **Contest Calendar** of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at http://www.arrl.org

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: https://www.425dxn.org/

425 DX News Google Group: https://groups.google.com/g/425eng

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", http://www.darcdxhf.de

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

Space Weather Prediction Center

Dr. Tony Phillips' <u>SpaceWeather.com</u>, used by permission Contest data courtesy of the <u>WA7BNM Contest Calendar</u>

DX News

3D2, FIJI. Dom, 3Z9DX, QRV as **3D2AJT** went QRT earlier than planned, on April 17th, as the Rebel DX Group is preparing a second operation from Conway Reef, which is expected to start soon under the callsign 3D2CCC. This will be a 2-man activity on 160-6 meters SSB (one station), CW (two stations) and FT8/FT4 (twelve stations). Bookmark https://www.facebook.com/rebeldxgroup/. QSL via CQRS.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0426)

3W, VIET NAM. Alex, KU1CW is QRV as **3W9A** and has been active on 15 meters using FT8 around 1800z. QSL to <u>KU1CW</u>.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)

- **3Y, BOUVET.** Ken, LA7GIA, has announced that **3YØK** currently no longer accepts donations as they still have not met their target budget and need to review their financial situation.
- -[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **6Y, JAMAICA.** Akira, JA7FYF, continues to operate as **6Y/AC6XT** from Kingston until April 26th.
- -[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **7Q, MALAWI.** Don, K6ZO, and Bill, KC4D, continue to operate as **7Q6M** and **7Q7WW** respectively until May. For QSL information see <u>7Q6M</u> and <u>7Q7WW</u> on qrz.com. -[DXNL # 2401 April 10, 2024] (0412-0503)
- 9H, MALTA. Special callsign 9H6HE is being used by the Malta Amateur Radio League (9H1MRL) to celebrate the swearing in of Dr. Myriam Spiteri Debono as Malta's 11th President. Look for activity from April 15th to May 31st, on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. Paper QSL cards will not be available; QSL via LoTW. -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0531)
- **A5, BHUTAN.** Janusz, SP9FIH, and Leszek, SP6CIK, sign **A52P** and **A52CI** respectively from April 19th to May 4th. QRV from 3000m ASL on 40-6m (CW, SSB, digital modes). For more information see: https://a5.dxpeditions.org/. QSL for A52P via ClubLog's OQRS; A52CI via SP6CIK or ClubLog's OQRS.
 -[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0503)
- **A6, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.** In recognition of World Amateur Radio Day, the Emirates Amateur Radio Society will operate special callsign **A6@WARD** from April 15th to 24th. Also expect activity by **A6@WARD/Ø**, **A6@WARD/1**, etc. QSL A6@WARD via <u>EA7FTR</u>. See https://www.qrz.com/db/A60WARD for the QSL routes for the various suffix extensions.
- -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0412-0426)
- **CEØY, EASTER I.** Ben DL6FBL, Win DK9IP and Lutz DM6EE will be active as **3GØYA** from April 18th to May 6th on their DXpedition to Easter Island (SA-001). They will operate SSB, FT8 and CW on 160-6 meters. More information can be found on https://www.qrz.com/db/3G0YA. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS (preferred), or via DJ4MX. -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0510)
- **CEØY, EASTER ISLAND.** A group of operators are QRV as **3GØYA** until May 6th. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via <u>DJ4MX</u>.
 -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0510)
- **CE9, ANTARCTICA.** Igor, RQ8K is QRV as **RI1ANE** from the Base Progress, IOTA AN-016, until May 2025. Activity is in his spare time. QSL via RN3RQ. -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0510)
- **CN, MOROCCO.** Special callsign **CN99HR** marks World Amateur Radio Day and the 99th anniversary of IARU until April 21st. QSL direct via <u>CN8RAH</u>. -[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **CT, PORTUGAL.** Special callsign **CR5ØY** celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Carnation Revolution (April 25, 1974), which resulted in the Portuguese transition to democracy. Look for activity to take place on various bands and modes on April 19th-25th. A certificate will be available, see <u>CR5ØY</u> on qrz.com for information. QSL via <u>CT1REP</u>. -[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **DL, GERMANY.** Celebrating World Amateur Radio Day, DARC special event callsign **DA24WARD** will be active on April 1st-30th. All QSOs will be confirmed

automatically via the bureau; direct cards via DL2VFR. -[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0329-0503)

DL, GERMANY. The special event callsign **DAØRC** will be active around the FunkTag 2024 exhibition. QRV until April 27th with the special DOK FTK24. Sending a card is not necessary, as there will be an automatic bureau service and confirmations via the DARC's DCL system. Direct cards go only via <u>DL2VFR</u>.
-[DXNL # 2396 March 6, 2024] (0308-0426)

DL, GERMANY. DARC Team SES will be active as **DL75AFUG**, **DL75AFUV** and **DP75AFUG** from March 1st until April 30th to mark the 75th anniversary of the first Amateurfunkgesetz (AfuG), the German amateur radio regulations that came into force on March 23, 1949. A certificate will be available, see https://www.qrz.com/db/DP75AFUG for information. QSL automatically via the bureau, or direct to DL2VFR. -[425DXN # 1713 March 2, 2024] (0301-0426)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of April 19, 2024:

```
1. P5
         DPRK (North Korea) 11. 3Y/B Bouvet Island
2. BS7H Scarborough Reef 12. ZS8
                                     Prince Edward & Marion Islands
3. CEØX
         San Felix Islands 13. KH4
                                     Midway Island
                         14. VKØM Macquarie Island
 4. BV9P
         Pratas Island
 5. KH7K
         Kure Island
                          15. PYØS
                                    Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
         Johnston Island 16. KP5
6. KH3
                                     Desecheo Island
         Glorioso Island 17. VPØS South Sandwich Islands
7. FT/G
                          18. KH5
8. 3Y/P
         Peter 1 Island
                                     Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
9. FT5/X Kerguelen Island 19. ZL9
                                     New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
10. YVØ
         Aves Island
                           20. FK/C Chesterfield Islands
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For the complete list, see https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php

-[KØCF April 19, 2024] (0419-0503)

E6, NIUE. Gavin, ZL3GAV will be QRV as **E6SP** from April 16th to 28th. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 6 meters using SSB, SSTV, FT8, and FT4 in DXpedition mode, with the possibility of CW and RTTY. QSL via LoTW (preferred), or direct to <u>EA5GL</u>.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)

EA, SPAIN. The Union de Radioaficionados Espanoles, Spain's IARU member society, was founded on April 1, 1949. Celebrating URE's 75th anniversary, a month-long activity will take place from April 1st to 30th. Look for AO75URE and 18 other special stations representing the Autonomous Communities and Autonomous Cities of the country:

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A075AN Andalucia A075GA Galicia
A075AR Aragon A075IB Islas Bale
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A075AR Aragon A075IB Islas Baleares, EA6
A075CA Cantabria A075IC Islas Canarias, EA8

A075CL Castilla y Leon A075LR La Rioja A075CM Castilla-La Mancha A075MA Madrid

A075MC Melilla and Ceuta, EA9

A075CV Comunidad Valenciana A075MU Murcia A075EU Euskadi i.e. Basque Country A075NA Navarra

A075EX Extremadura A075PA Principado de Asturias

In addition, **CQ75URE** will be active from Portugal. A large number of awards will be available: see https://75aniversario.ure.es for detailed information, log search and OQRS (to be activated after April 30).

-[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0329-0503)

ER, MOLDOVA. Special callsign **ER3ØARM** celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Amateur Radio Society of Moldova (ER1KAA). Look for activity from March 20th to April 30th. QSL via the bureau, direct to <u>ER3ØARM</u>, and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0322-0503)

- **F, FRANCE.** Dominique, F5PTI will be active as **TM5ØØNA** on April 14th-28th to memorialize the 500th anniversary since the first European explorer, Giovanni da Verrazzano, visited nowadays New York City area and named it New Angouleme. QSL via F5PTI.
- -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0412-0503)
- **F, FRANCE.** Special callsign **TM83JO** will be active for fifteen days from April 16th, when the Olympic flame is lit in Greece, until July 26th, when the flame ends its journey by lighting the Olympic cauldron at the Paris 2024 Opening Ceremony of. Look for activity on 80-6 meters SSB, CW and digital modes, as well as via QO-100. QSL via the bureau, LoTW, eQSL.
- -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0412-0728)
- **FO/A, AUSTRAL I.** Jeff, K5WE and Craig, W5CCP will be active as **TX7W** from Raivavae (OC-114), Austral Islands on April 16th-30th. They will operate mainly CW and FT8 (multi stream mode, not F/H), with some SSB, RTTY and FT4, on 160-6 meters. Depending upon a reliable Internet connection, logs will be uploaded to ClubLog daily, and ClubLog's Livestream will be enabled. See https://k5we.com/tx7w/ for more information and updates. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS (preferred), LoTW, or direct to K5WE. -[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0412-0503)
- **FY, FRENCH GUIANA.** Operators at club station FY5KE are QRV as **T06ØCSG** each weekend in April, May, and June to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Guiana Space Centre. See detailed information at <u>T06ØCSG</u>. QSL direct to <u>FY5KE</u>.
 -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 14 April 4, 2024] (0405-0630)
- **G, ENGLAND.** The Wessex DX Group will be active as **GBØWED** on April 20th 27th for Earth Day, the global event held annually on April 22nd to demonstrate support for environmental protection. QSL via eQSL.
- -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **GM, SCOTLAND.** A group of operators will activate **GBØSIC** from the Isle of Coll (EU-008) from April 15th to 20th. QSL via <u>GØAZE</u>, OQRS. -[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **H4, SOLOMON IS.** Bernhard, DL2GAC will be active again as **H44MS** from Malaita (OC-047), Solomon Islands from around February 10th until April 25th. He will be QRV daily, with activity on 160-6 meters SSB and some FT8. He will upload his log to ClubLog and LoTW. QSL via DL2GAC, direct or bureau.
- -[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0209-0426)
- **HB, SWITZERLAND.** Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of the USKA's Valais/Wallis Section will be active as **HB15ØGM** between April and December. QSL via the bureau to <u>HB9Y</u>.
 -[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0412-0503)
- HI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Special callsign HI18ØRD celebrates the 180th anniversary since the Dominican Republic declared its independence from Haiti (February 27, 1844). Look for activity on all bands and modes beginning February 27th until April 30th. Some 25 operators from five radio clubs will be part of the event. A certificate will be available, see https://independencia2024.org/ for information.

 -[425DXN # 1713 March 2, 2024] (0301-0503)
- **HR, HONDURAS.** K6VHF signs **HR9/K6VHF** from Roatan Island (NA-057) from April 23rd to 30th on 160-6m, including 60m. QSL via <u>ClubLog's OQRS</u>, LoTW. -[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0503)
- **HR, HONDURAS.** John, AD8J will be QRV as **HR9/AD8J** from Roatan, IOTA NA-057, beginning April 14th. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using CW, FT8, FT4, and possibly

- SSB. QSL via LoTW.
- -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)
- **I, ITALY.** Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, special station **II50X** will be active on April 20th (0700-1500 UTC) from the Ximenian Observatory in Florence. A radiotelegraphic station, which was visited by Marconi, was set up at the observatory as early as 1912. QSL via <u>IW5DPF</u>, direct or bureau. -[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **I, ITALY.** Claudio, IU6RVC and Marcello, IW6PLZ will be active as **IL7/IU6RVC** and **IL7/IW6PLZ** from San Domino Island (EU-050) on April 19th-21st. QSL direct to <u>IU6RVC</u>.
- -[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **I, ITALY.** Special callsign **IIIGM** will be used on April 1st-30th to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi. Various operators will be QRV from different call areas (e.g. **IIIGM/1**, **IIIGM/2**, **IIIGM/ISØ**, **IIIGM/IT9**, etc.). See https://www.qrz.com/db/IIIGM for more information. QSL via eQSL, or direct to IK1VHX. -[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0329-0503)
- **I, ITALY.** Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of ARI Montegrappa (IQ3RP) will be active as **II3GM** from April 15th to May 15th. QSL via operator's instructions.
- -[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0412-0517)
- **I, ITALY.** Members of ARI Venezia (IQ3VE) will be active as **IR3POLO** from April 1st to June 30th. The special callsign commemorates the 700th anniversary since the death of Marco Polo, the Venetian merchant and explorer who travelled through Asia along the Silk Road (1271-1295). All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. -[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0329-0630)
- I, ITALY. Special callsign II4CLM will be active on April 1st-30th in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi. Joining the celebrations will be IY4FGM (the amateur radio station at the Guglielmo Marconi Foundation) and the club stations of the 17 ARI branches in the Emilia-Romagna region (namely IQ4AD, IQ4AX, IQ4BQ, IQ4DJ, IQ4FA, IQ4FC, IQ4FD, IQ4FE, IQ4FH, IQ4FJ, IQ4HI, IQ4LH, IQ4PI, IQ4RA, IQ4RE, IQ4RN and IQ4SC). Further information, including real time log search, can be found on https://www.150marconi.org/. QSL via the bureau. -[425DXN # 1715 March 16, 2024] (0329-0503)
- **I, ITALY.** Members of ARI Sondrio (IQ2UL) will operate special event station **II2AUT** from March 25th to May 7th for the World Autism Awareness Day. Back in 2007 the United Nations General Assembly declared April 2nd as World Autism Awareness Day to highlight the need to help improve the quality of life of autistic individuals so they can lead full and meaningful lives as an integral part of society. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog. QSL via the bureau and eQSL.
- -[425DXN # 1715 March 16, 2024] (0322-0510)
- **JA, JAPAN.** Take, JI3DST will be active again from the Miyako Islands (AS-079) from April 24th to June 26th. Callsigns to be used are **JS6RRR**, **JS6RRR/6**, **JI3DST/6**, **JJ5RBH/6** and **JR8YLY/6** on SSB and CW, as well as **JS6RRR/p**, **JI3DST/p**, **JJ5RBH/p** and **JR8YLY/p** on FT8/FT4. QSOs will be made available for ClubLog and LoTW Matching on the IOTA website.
- -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0630)
- **JD1/M, MINAMI TORISHIMA.** Koutarou, JP1IHD, is going to put Chichijima (OC-073) on the air as **JD1BQP** from April 22nd until May 3rd. QSL via <u>JD1BQP</u>.
 -[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0503)

- **JD1/O, OGASAWARA.** Harry, JG7PSJ will be active again as **JD1BMH** from Chichijima (AS-031) Ogasawara from April 22nd to May 4th. He will operate CW, SSB and RTTY on 40-10 meters. Log search on http://jg7psj.starfree.jp/jd1bmh/. He does not use LoTW or PayPal. QSL via the bureau to JD1BMH, or direct to JG7PSJ. -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0419-0503)
- **JD1/O, OGASAWARA.** Kou, JP1IHD will be active again as **JD1BQP** from Chichijima (AS-031) Ogasawara from April 22nd to May 3rd. He plans to operate SSB on 15-6 meters. He will upload his log to LoTW and ClubLog. QSL via the bureau to JD1BQP, or direct to JP1IHD.
- -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0419-0503)
- **JW, SVALBARD.** Kaare, LA8EKA will be active as **JW8EKA** from the Svalbard Amatorradioklubb in Longyearbyen (EU-026) on April 18th-21st. He will operate SSB and digital modes (FT8, PSK31, RTTY) on 80-10m. QSL direct to <u>LA8EKA</u>. -[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0412-0426)
- **KH9, WAKE I.** Tom, NL7RR is QRV as **KH9/NL7RR** until May 15th. Activity is generally on 20 meters using SSB around 0700z. QSL direct to NL7RR.
 -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0517)
- **KHØ, MARIANA IS.** JA6VQA, as WHØB, along with JA6REX and JH6HZH will be QRV from April 25th to 30th, using mainly FT8 and FT4 with some CW and SSB, on 160 to 6 meters. Listen for them as **WHØB**, **KHØ/JA6REX** and **KHØ/W6HZH**, respectively. QSL WHØB via LoTW, eQSL and direct to <u>JA6VQA</u>. QSL KHØ/JA6REX and KHØ/W6HZH via LoTW, eQSL and <u>ClubLog's OQRS</u>.
- -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 11 March 14, 2024] (0419-0503)
- **OE, AUSTRIA.** In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi (April 25, 1874), Enrico, OE7AFT (IZ4AFL) will be active as **OE15ØGM** on April 19th-28th. He will operate CW only. QSL via LoTW, or direct to <u>OE7AFT</u> (SASE or USD/EUR not required).
- -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0419-0503)
- **OK, CZECH REPUBLIC.** In celebration of World Amateur Radio Day (April 18th), Martin, OK1RR and Slavek, OK1TN will be active as **OL1WARD** on April 1st-30th. They will operate CW only on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW; paper cards will not be available. -[425DXN # 1715 March 16, 2024] (0329-0503)
- **ON, BELGIUM.** Special event station **OT2Ø24EPIC** is QRV until May 19th to promote the seventh edition of the Antwerp Port Epic cycling race. QSL via operators' instructions. -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0517)
- **ON, BELGIUM.** Special event stations **OR24WARD** and **OP24WARD** will be active on all bands and modes on April 1st-30th in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day (April 18th). A certificate will be available, see https://www.uba.be/en/hf/awards/uba-awards. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS, or via eQSL.
- -[425DXN # 1715 March 16, 2024] (0329-0503)
- **P4, ARUBA.** Peter, K1AV, is currently active as **P4/K1AV** from Ariok National Park (AW-0001). He remains on the air until April 24th. QSL via K1AV.
 -[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **PA, NETHERLANDS.** To mark the 75th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (April 4, 1949), special event stations **PA75OTAN** and **PA75NATO** will be active on April 1st-19th and April 20th-21st, respectively. A certificate will be available, see https://www.qrz.com/db/PA75NATO for information. QSLs via ClubLog's OQRS, LoTW, eQSL, or via the bureau.
 - Additionally, during the weekend of April 20th-21st, several other special stations are

expected to be QRV from various Cold War locations in the Netherlands: **PA6KLD**, **PA75BBGB**, **PA75GOLF**, **PA75HS**, **PA75KLE**, **PA75KOC**, **PA75NAVO**, **PA75NN**, **PA75NSG**, **PA75PARE**, **PA75PBV**, **PA75YP**, **PC75NAVO**, **PD75SAS**, **PE75NATO**, **PG75NAVO** and **PH75NATO**. (https://pa60cuba.nl/pa75navo-zendstations/). -[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0329-0426)

PJ4, BONAIRE. TJ, PE10JR will be QRV as **PJ4TB** from April 13th to 28th. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)

- **SV, GREECE.** Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Second Hellenic Republic, several operators will be active as **SX1ØØD** from April 13th to 21st. Look for activity on 160-2 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. A certificate will be available for download on https://sv2rck.gr/SX100D/. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, ClubLog's OQRS, or direct to SV2GWY. -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0412-0426)
- **SV, GREECE.** Special callsign **SZØWARD** celebrates World Amateur Radio Day by the Radio Amateur Association of Greece on April 15th-30th. Look for activity on all bands SSB, CW and digital modes. See https://sv2rck.gr/SZ0WARD for the certificate. QSL via the bureau and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0412-0503)

- **T5, SOMALIA.** Alex, IT9HRK is QRV as **T5/IT9HRK** from Mogadishu. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using all modes. His length of stay is unknown. QSL via operators' instructions. -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 14 April 4, 2024] (0405-0426)
- **TA, TURKEY.** In celebration of World Amateur Radio Day, members of TRAC Izmir will be active as **TC3WRD** from April 1st to 30th. A certificate will be available, see https://tadx.org/awards. QSL via LoTW.
 -[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0329-0503)
- **TI, COSTA RICA.** Reiner, DL2AAZ, operates holiday-style from April 5th to 20th as **TI2/DL2AAAZ** on 40-10m (CW, SSB). QSL via <u>DL2AAZ</u>.
 -[DXNL # 2400 April 3, 2024] (0405-0426)
- TT, CHAD. Six operators of the Italian DXpedition Team (Franco I1FQH, Alfeo I1HJT, Tony I2PJA, Silvano I2YSB, Angelo IK2CKR and Stefano IK2HKT) will be active as TT8RR (SSB, CW and RTTY), TT8XX (FT8) and TT8TT (callsign for QSOs via QO-100) from Chad on April 17th-30th. They will run four stations on 80-6 meters, plus one station dedicated to satellite. Operations will start on FT8 (F/H at first, and normal mode on standard frequencies when the pileup decreases), other modes will follow. The hottest period of the year approaches (temperatures expected to reach 43 degrees Celsius in the shade) and the team has already taken measures by procuring an additional backup power generator, as the on-site generator will not be able to run 24/7. See http://www.i2ysb.com/idt/ for more information, band plan and OQRS for direct cards included. QSL via I2YSB.-[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0412-0503)
- **V5, NAMIBIA.** Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as **V51WH** near Omaruru until April 30th. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters. QSL to DK2WH.
 -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)
- **V6, MICRONESIA.** Kevin, N4DVR is QRV as **V6DVR** from Chuuk, IOTA OC-011, until April 20th. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL via LoTW. -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0426)
- **VE, CANADA.** Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force, from April 1st to 30th amateur radio operators across Canada will be operating special event stations with special callsigns such as **VC3RCAF** and **VE3RCAF** (Ontario), **VC9RCAF** and **VE9RCAF** (New Brunswick), **VE2RCAF** (Quebec), **VE5RCAF** (Saskatchewan), **VE6RCAF**

(Alberta), **VE7RCAF** (British Columbia), **VO1RCAF** (Newfoundland), **VY2RCAF** (Prince Edward Island). QSL via operators' instructions.

-[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0329-0503)

VK, AUSTRALIA. A team of six Australians (Chris VK5FR, Adam VK5GA/VK2YK, Grant VK5GR, Ivan VK5HS, Andy VK5LA and Paul VK5PAS) will be active as **VK5FIL** from Flinders Island (OC-261) on April 14th-21st. This IOTA group has not been activated since 2013. They will operate all modes from 160m to 70cm, including both terrestrial and satellite modes. QSL via MØOXO's OQRS. Bookmark https://www.vk5fil.com/ for more information and updates.

-[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0412-0426)

VU, INDIA. Jose, VU2JOS is QRV as **AT24JOS** until April 22nd to celebrate World Amateur Radio Day. QSL to <u>VU2JOS</u>.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0426)

VU7, LAKSHADWEEP IS. Santhilal, VU3OQK, reports that he is planning to be active as **VU7LAL** from Lakshadweep Islands (Agatti & Kavarathi) towards the end of April through the first weekend of May. He will be on 40, 20 and 10 meters from both islands. QSL via VU3OQK.

-[Tnx KØJGH April 13, 2024] (0419-0510

XE, MEXICO. Jose Manuel, **XF3AB**, resides on Carmen Island (NA-135) and is active most nights on 40m and during weekends on 10m (SSB). QSL via <u>EA5GL</u>. -[DXNL # 2400 April 3, 2024] (0405-0426)

XW, LAOS. Vincent, **XW4KV** is QRV from Vang Vieng until June 1st. Lately he has been active on 15 meters using FT8 around 1100z. QSL via <u>F4BKV</u>.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 12 March 21, 2024] (0322-0602)

XX9, MACAO. Wai, **XX9CM** is usually active on 17 meters using SSB around 1430 to 1900z. QSL direct to <u>XX9CM</u>.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0510)

YB, INDONESIA. Special callsigns **8A145RA**, **8A145KAR**, **8A145TI** and **8A145NI** will be active on April 20th – 22nd commemorating the 145th anniversary since the birth of Raden Adjeng Kartini (1879-1904). Look for activity on the five classic bands SSB. R.A. Kartini was an activist who advocated for women's rights and female education; in 1964 she was awarded the title of National Hero of Indonesia. See https://award.orari.or.id/ for the certificates that will be available. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, ClubLog's OQRS, or via N2OO. -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0426)

YO, ROMANIA. Celebrating the 95th anniversary of the first amateur radio association in Romania's Arad County, special callsigns **YR95AR**, **YR95CC**, **YR95CH**, **YR95IN**, **YR95LI**, **YR95PE** and **YR95SE** will be active from February 16th until May 31st. The event is being organized by C.S. Radioclub Admira (YO2KBQ), the successor of the club that was established almost a century ago. See https://www.qrz.com/db/YR95AR for more information.

-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0531)

YU, SERBIA. Organized amateur radio in Serbia began with the founding of the "Society of Friends of Radio Telegraphy and Radio Telephony" on July 15, 1924 in Belgrade. Celebrating 100 years of Amateur Radio in the region, the Amateur Radio Union of Serbia (YU1SRS) will be active as **YT1ØØR** and **YU1ØØR** from April 1st to December 1st. A certificate will be available: https://www.radiosport.yu1srs.org.rs/. -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0405-0426)

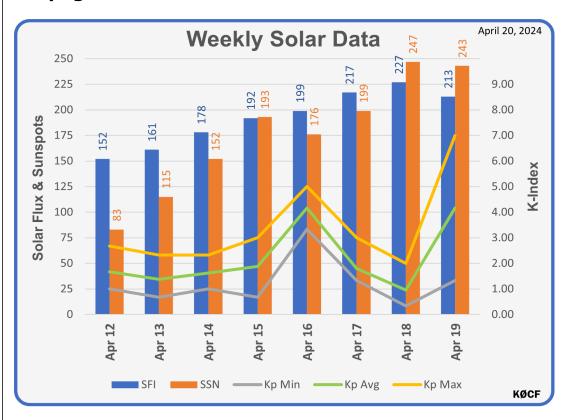
Z8, SOUTH SUDAN. Diya, YI1DZ is QRV as **Z81D** from Juba until May 31st. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters, and possibly 160 and 80 meters, using SSB and FT8. QSL via OM3JW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0531)

ZS, SOUTH AFRICA. Roberto "Bob", PB5X, operates holiday-style as **ZS6/PB5X** from April 12th to 21st. QSL via PA1AW, LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2401 April 10, 2024] (0412-0426)

Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click here or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

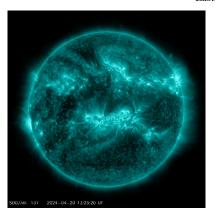
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wavelength of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click here or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Friday, April 12th through yesterday, April 19th.

The average solar flux was 198, up 66 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 227 on Thursday, April 18th, following a low of 152 on April 12th.

The average sunspot count was 189, up 116 from last week, peaking at 247 on Thursday, April 18th after a weekly low of 83 on April 12th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 3.4 with a maximum of 7.0 on Friday, April 19th, resulting in strong geomagnetic storm conditions.

Solar flare activity since April 13th has been very high with 15 major flares, the largest of which was an M 4.3 event on Sunday, April 14th.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Saturday, April 13th through 1210 UTC, April 20th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Apr 19	1306	M 1.0
2	Apr 19	0453	M 2.1
3	Apr 18	2001	M 1.6
4	Apr 18	0737	M 1.3
5	Apr 18	0248	M 2.2
6	Apr 17	2208	M 1.6
7	Apr 16	1802	M 1.1
8	Apr 15	1932	M 4.0
9	Apr 15	1417	M 2.2
10	Apr 15	1358	M 1.1
11	Apr 15	0842	M 2.3
12	Apr 15	0732	M 1.0
13	Apr 15	0118	M 1.7
14	Apr 14	0232	M 4.3
15	Apr 13	0502	M 2.4

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: GOES-X-Ray-Flux)

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Apr 20	75%	20%	220
Apr 21	75%	20%	220
Apr 22	75%	20%	215

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on April 15, 2024).

Date	Flux	Кр
Apr 20	170	2
Apr 21	167	2
Apr 22	165	2
Apr 23	160	2

Date	Flux	Кр
Apr 24	160	2
Apr 25	155	2
Apr 26	140	2
Apr 27	135	2

Date	Flux	Кр
Apr 28	125	3
Apr 29	120	3
Apr 30	125	2
May 1	125	3

Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 234 on January 15, 2023. Sunspots: 247 on April 18, 2024.

Popular Propagation web sites

https://prop.kc2g.com/ (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA https://www.spaceweather.com/
https://www.solarham.net/

https://dx.gsl.net/propagation/

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also

has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!
-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start U	тс	End	Web Site	
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	<u>Rules</u>	
	Monday	1300Z	1400Z		
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	Rules	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z		
	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z		
CWons Tost (CWT)	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	Bules	
CWops Test (CWT)	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	<u>Rules</u>	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z		
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules	
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules	

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
Holyland DX Contest	Apr 19	2100Z	Apr 20	2100Z	Rules
YU DX Contest	Apr 20	0700Z	Apr 21	0659Z	Rules
CQMM DX Contest	Apr 20	0900Z	Apr 21	2359Z	Rules
Michigan QSO Party	Apr 20	1600Z	Apr 21	0400Z	Rules
Ontario QSO Party	Apr 20	1800Z	Apr 21	1800Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Apr 21	1800Z	Apr 21	2359Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	Apr 27	0001Z	Apr 28	2359Z	Rules
SP DX RTTY Contest	Apr 27	1200Z	Apr 28	1200Z	Rules
Helvetia Contest	Apr 27	1300Z	Apr 28	1259Z	Rules
Florida QSO Party	Apr 27	1600Z	Apr 28	2159Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	May 4	0001Z	May 5	2359Z	Rules
7th Call Area QSO Party	May 4	1300Z	May 5	0700Z	Rules
Indiana QSO Party	May 4	1600Z	May 5	0400Z	Rules
Delaware QSO Party	May 4	1700Z	May 5	2359Z	Rules

New England QSO Party	May 4	2000Z	May 5	2400Z	<u>Rules</u>
CQ-M International DX Contest	May 11	1200Z	May 12	1159Z	<u>Rules</u>
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	May 18	1200Z	May 19	1200Z	Rules
Arkansas QSO Party	May 18	1400Z	May 19	0200Z	<u>Rules</u>
Baltic Contest	May 18	2100Z	May 19	0200Z	<u>Rules</u>
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	May 25	0000Z	May 26	2400Z	<u>Rules</u>
Kentucky QSO Party	Jun 1	1300Z	Jun 2	0100Z	<u>Rules</u>
ARRL Inter. Digital Contest	Jun 1	1800Z	Jun 2	2400Z	<u>Rules</u>
ARRL June VHF Contest	Jun 8	1800Z	Jun 10	0300Z	<u>Rules</u>
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Jun 15	1500Z	Jun 16	1500Z	<u>Rules</u>
West Virginia QSO Party	Jun 15	1600Z	Jun 16	0400Z	<u>Rules</u>
ARRL Kids Day	Jun 15	1800Z	Jun 15	2359Z	<u>Rules</u>
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	<u>Rules</u>
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	<u>Rules</u>
ARRL Field Day	Jun 22	1800Z	Jun 23	2100Z	<u>Rules</u>
RAC Canada Day Contest	Jul 1	0000Z	Jul 1	2359Z	<u>Rules</u>
IARU HF World Championship	Jul 13	1200Z	Jul 14	1200Z	<u>Rules</u>
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	2100Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	0559Z	Rules

^{-[}Contest data courtesy of the <u>WA7BNM Contest Calendar</u>]

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